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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Employment Bulletin

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RHODE ISLAND EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT - APRIL 1992

Overall Rhode Island wage and salary jobs advanced from March to April primarily attributable to seasonal gains in Construction, Trade and Services. The April job total of 414,800 represented a monthly increase of 1,700, but remained 6,700 below the April 1991 figure of 421,500.

Employment among the Service Producing industries increased 1,200 from the prior month to the April level of 316,300. This figure was unchanged from the year earlier level. Seasonal gains in Miscellaneous Services and Wholesale/Retail Trade boosted monthly job totals by 1,200 and 1,000, respectively. Overall Government employment declined 700 over the month, mainly due to a decrease in the local government segment. Monthly job reductions were also evident in Finance, Insurance & Real Estate (-200) and Transportation & Public Utilities (-100).

The number of jobs in the Goods Producing sector totalled 98,500 in April, reflecting an increase of 500 from March, but a downturn of 6,700 compared to a year ago. Contract Construction employment rose seasonally in April climbing to 11,400, up 500 from the March figure, but down 1,800 from the April 1991 level. Total Manufacturing employment, at 87,100, showed no change from the previous month; however, the April figure represented an annual reduction of 4,900 factory jobs. Manufacturers of Durable Goods reported a monthly job loss of 200, while employment in Nondurable Goods increased by a like amount. Within the factory segment, monthly employment increases of 100 each occurred in Fabricated Metals, Jewelry/Silverware, Textiles, Apparel and Chemical Products. These gains were offset, however, by decreases of 100 each in Lumber/Furniture, Primary Metals, Nonelectrical Machinery, Miscellaneous Manufacturing and Food-Beverage. Job totals for the nine remaining industries - four in Durable Goods and five in Nondurable Goods - were unchanged over the month.

The April work week averaged 39.6 hours, down 0.2 of an hour from March, but unchanged from a year ago. Production workers averaged $9.81 per hour in April, reflecting an increase of two cents from March and eight cents compared to the April 1991 level.

Rhode Island's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate rose for the second consecutive month in April. The April estimate of 9.3 percent represented an increase of 1.2 percentage points from the March level and 1.4 percentage points from the April 1991 rate of 7.9 percent. The State's unadjusted rate also posted a monthly increase - from an estimated 8.9 percent in March to 9.6 percent in April. In concert with this, the jobless level climbed to 49,500 in April, showing an increase of 3,500 from the month earlier total. One year ago, Rhode Island's unadjusted rate stood at 8.2 percent, while the number of unemployed was estimated at 41,600.

Nationally, the seasonally adjusted rate in April (7.2 percent) reflected a decrease of one-tenth of a percentage point from the March estimate of 7.3 percent. The unadjusted U.S. rate fell to 7.1 percent in April from the previous month's estimate of 7.7 percent. One year ago the unemployment rates for the nation were estimated at 6.6 percent (adjusted) and 6.5 percent (unadjusted).

**** *IMPORTANT !!* ****

FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT TAX CREDITS

The Federal Unemployment Tax (FUTA) is 6.2% of the first $7,000 in wages paid to each employee. Up to 90% of the FUTA Tax may be offset by employer contributions paid to the State Unemployment Insurance fund during the year.

We recently have been informed by the Internal Revenue Service that some employers are overstating contribution amounts paid to the State Unemployment Insurance fund on FUTA 940 forms by including payments made for Temporary Disability Insurance and/or Job Development Fund taxes.

When entering the amount of contributions paid into state (Rhode Island) Unemployment funds on the 1992 Federal 940 form, be sure to include only the amounts from item 9 on the 1992 Rhode Island Department of Employment and Training's Quarterly Tax and Wage Reports (DET-TX-17).

Further information on this subject may be obtained by calling the department's Tax Unit at 277-3682.

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Employment and unemployment statistics contained in this report were compiled by THE DEPT. OF EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING in cooperation with the BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS, U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR. For additional information contact LABOR MARKET INFORMATION at 277-3706. TDD Voice: 277-3718.

RHODE ISLAND

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1992	Mar.* 1992	Apr.* 1991	
Civilian Labor Force	516.5	514.0	508.7	
Resident Employment	467.1	468.0	467.1	
Unemployment	49.5	46.0	41.6	
Rate (Unadjusted)	9.6	8.9	8.2	
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	9.3	8.1	7.9	*Revised

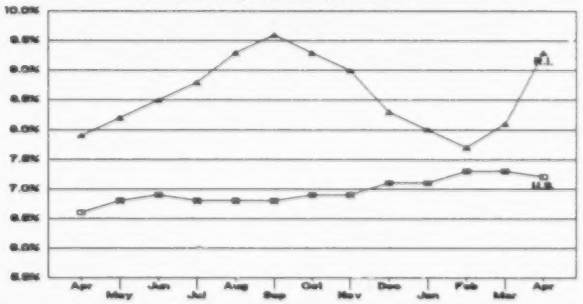
UNITED STATES

Labor Force Statistics
(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1992	Mar. 1992	Apr. 1991
Civilian Labor Force	125,878	125,797	124,727
Resident Employment	116,933	116,106	116,678
Unemployment	8,945	9,691	8,049
Rate (Unadjusted)	7.1	7.7	6.5
Seasonally Adjusted Rate	7.2	7.3	6.6

R.I. and U.S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

Seasonally Adjusted, Apr. 91 – Apr. 92



TOTAL ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT IN RHODE ISLAND

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands) Apr. 1992	Mar. 1992	Apr. 1991	NET CHANGE FROM Mar. 1992	Apr. 1991
TOTAL EMPLOYMENT	414.8	413.1	421.5	+ 1700	- 6700
GOODS PRODUCING	98.5	98.0	105.2	+ 500	- 6700
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	11.4	10.9	13.2	+ 500	- 1800
MANUFACTURING	87.1	87.1	92.0	-----	- 4900
SERVICE PRODUCING	316.3	315.1	316.3	+ 1200	-----
TRANS. & PUBLIC UTILITIES	14.1	14.2	14.4	- 100	- 300
TRADE (Wholesale & Retail)	85.8	84.8	87.8	+ 1000	- 2000
FINANCE, INS. & REAL ESTATE	25.0	25.2	26.4	- 200	- 1400
SERVICE (Miscellaneous)	129.7	128.5	126.5	+ 1200	+ 3200
GOVERNMENT	61.7	62.4	61.2	- 700	+ 500

ESTABLISHMENT EMPLOYMENT, EARNINGS AND HOURS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES IN R.I.

APRIL 1992

	EMPLOYMENT (In Thousands)	PRODUCTION-WORKER AVERAGES Weekly Earnings	Weekly Hours	Hourly Earnings
ALL MANUFACTURING	87.1	388.48	39.6	9.81
DURABLE MFG.	58.1	385.26	39.8	9.68
LUMBER/FURNITURE	2.2	399.97	37.0	10.81
STONE-CLAY-GLASS	1.2	440.82	39.5	11.16
PRIMARY METALS	3.3	441.32	44.0	10.03
FABRICATED METALS	7.2	368.55	37.8	9.75
NONELECTRIC MACH.	5.0	542.10	45.1	12.02
ELECTRICAL MACH.	4.4	370.72	38.9	9.53
TRANS. EQUIPMENT	6.4	466.76	40.1	11.64
INSTRUMENTS	6.1	423.38	38.7	10.94
JEWELRY-SILVERWARE	17.4	310.86	39.3	7.91
MISCELLANEOUS MFG.	4.9	366.52	39.2	9.35
NONDURABLE MFG.	29.0	395.14	39.2	10.08
FOOD-BEVERAGE	2.7	397.03	41.4	9.59
TEXTILES	7.8	367.74	40.5	9.08
APPAREL	1.2	240.75	32.8	7.34
PAPER PRODUCTS	1.8	410.22	43.0	9.54
PRINTING-PUBLISHING	5.3	451.65	32.1	14.07
CHEMICAL PRODUCTS	3.1	467.48	40.3	11.60
RUBBER PRODUCTS	0.6	460.19	39.4	11.68
PLASTICS PRODUCTS	5.1	439.29	40.6	10.82
LEATHER PRODUCTS	1.4	267.03	38.7	6.90

Farmers, Self-employed, Domestic and Armed Services personnel are excluded from the Establishment Employment figures. Current month figures are PRELIMINARY. Prior month and year figures are REVISED.